

# the chronicle

**Ferrets in the runs as cricketers aim to raise cash for youth**

— see page 2



**Girl next door Josie is made a freeman of Sandwell borough**

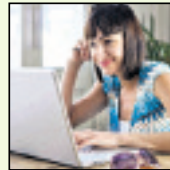
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## Fans' DIY deal over repairs at The Grove

URGENT repairs and maintenance work at the home of Halesowen Town football club will be carried out by supporters under new plans.

Improvements to The Grove stadium are crucial to bringing more football fans through the turnstiles to boost coffers, club management said.

It was decided at a trust board meeting last week that supporters group, The Yeltz Trust, will help with running the non-league outfit. A group met at the ground on Sunday to establish how much work needs to be done.

### Positive

Trust chairman Gary Willetts said: "We need to bring in a system, for the time being at least, to make sure we continue the upkeep of the ground."

"The trust is willing to get involved in helping out because, after all, it is for the benefit of the club."

Mr Willetts says talks with general manager Shaun Cunningham have been positive regarding the possibility of the trust taking a more active role in the running of the club.

He said general maintenance, such as weeding, tidying up and painting, would be a priority. "We just need to get the ball rolling," he said.

## Speedy result on swine flu

A NEW test which more quickly determines the type of a flu a patient has is being offered in Sandwell.

The Xpert Flu test, which is being used by Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, differentiates between winter flu and swine flu in just over an hour.

## Shop under threat

A CAMPAIGN to save Dudley's threatened Benefits Shop has been launched by people who use it. The dedicated one-stop service, based in Priory Street, provides free advice. It may be forced to close to save the cash-strapped council hundreds of thousands of pounds a year.

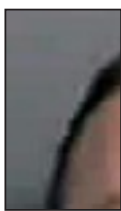
## Figuring it all out

STUDENTS from Halesowen's Earls High School are hoping to figure highly in a UK Mathematics Trust intermediate competition on February 3 and the junior section on May 6.

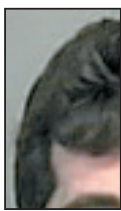
# OUR MISERY - SCAM VICTIMS



Mark Dixon



Nicholas Harris



Matthew Higgins

A COUPLE from Halesowen who fell victim to cowboy builders who illegally made £1 million have told how they felt "stupid" for falling for the scam.

The three men were jailed for between six and eight year last week for conspiracy to defraud.

A judge asked them: "How can you sleep at night?" after hearing how they targeted 50 homeowners, carrying out shoddy work across 14 counties.

The men passed themselves off as experts in extensions, asking their targets for a deposit of at least 10 per cent of the cost.

When victims challenged them over the lack of progress, they were often threatened with legal action for breach of contract.

The Halesowen couple, who asked not to be named, paid out £21,000 for an extension and loft conversion above the garage.

Only around £5,500 worth of work was completed after the deal was agreed in August 2007.

The couple said they felt "stupid" and "gullible" when they found out what had gone on, despite carrying out a number of checks before signing up for the work.

The wife said: "They were really professional at first but I started to become suspicious around the end of September when things started to slow down and they were still asking for money."

They eventually discovered the truth when contacted by someone working for the firm who had realised what was happening.

Gang leader Nicholas Harris, aged 45, was jailed for eight years, Mark Dixon, 43, was locked up for seven years and Matthew Higgins, 34, was given six years. All were found guilty of conspiracy to defraud by a jury.

One victim in Wednesfield paid £14,000 for a single storey extension to his house which was never finished.

A victim in Oldbury paid £19,800 for work on an extension started in 2007.

Sentencing the three Gloucester men at Bristol Crown Court on Friday, Judge David Ticehurst said their "lies and deception" had left customers with buildings exposed to the elements, walls falling down, sewer pipes broken and calls unreturned.

### Deliberate

A boy with cerebral palsy had to sleep on an airbed because Harris and his accomplices had let them down, he said.

Judge Ticehurst asked: "How can you sleep at night? This was deliberate and planned."

Detective Chief Inspector David Sellwood said: "The substantial sentences show how seriously the courts take this kind of cynical operation."

"It is tempting to call these men cowboy builders but really they are criminals, pure and simple."

Harris was able to hire five cars with the proceeds including two Mercedes, a Range Rover, a Toyota Landcruiser and a BMW 745i. A jury convicted the trio, of conspiracy to defraud between April 2005 and October 2007 following a three-month trial.

## Teenager Tom at helm for canal trips



Tom Downing, aged 18, puts the finishing touches to the Blackcountry Man

A FATHER and son team are putting finishing touches to renovating a Black Country narrowboat which has carried hundreds of passengers.

The Blackcountry Man boat, usually moored at the Bonded Warehouse, off Canal Street, Stourbridge, hosts pleasure cruises, comedy nights and historical tours highlighting the town's glass industry. Long-serving captain and trip operator Mick Bourne retired aged 64 last year.

### Experience

Stourbridge Canal Trust wanted a new person at the helm and Tom Downing, 18, stepped up.

His father, Andy, helped transform and update the boat ready for its new season starting in spring.

They plan a new series of boat trips starting in April.

"We've worked together on it which has been good as he has the experience of working in the dry dock," said Tom, of Swan Street, Nether-ton. Trust bosses decided to choose Tom over six other candidates.

## Tourist site job hopes in fresh bid for funding

ALMOST 200 jobs will be created at Dudley Zoo, the Black Country Museum and Dudley Canal Trust under a £46.5 million investment plan.

The tourist attractions are jointly bidding for cash as part of a Transforming Dudley vision, which will see the sites revitalised.

The project has asked for £2m from the government with the rest of its proposed £46.5m investment coming from private sources and Europe. It is one of four cash bids in the Black Country.

The Black Country Reinvestment Society is asking for £8m to help create 880 jobs and safeguard 4,968 more by providing loans to businesses.

The Transforming Dudley project will see Dudley Zoo, Dudley Canal Trust and the Black Country Living Museum create joint visitor and arrival facilities and revitalise their attractions.

The Black Country Consortium, which works on behalf of the councils estimates that 20 jobs will be safeguarded at the three organisations and 193 will be created.

## Museum's trams may not run until Easter

BLACK Country Living Museum trams and trolleybuses may be out of action until Easter as repair work is done, it has emerged.

They have stopped running after thieves stole a section of overhead electrical wiring at the Tipton Road site. Bosses said experts

were still assessing the extent of damage to cables and connectors but hoped to be fully operational for Easter.

The cost of work is not yet known. The museum said, due to the historic nature of the tramway, it was hard to predict how long restoration would take, as it would

require specialist work. Spokeswoman Fiona Carding said: "We are working hard to reinstate the tram and would hope it would become fully operational in time for Easter."

A vintage coach service is now being used to transport visitors around the site.

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## Girls walking tall for charity fundraising



Stiltwalkers Emma Acton (top left) and Marie Acton with Rockettes Heidi Bytheway (front left) Bryony Hodgkinson and Domanique Savage-Ramsay

SINGERS, dancers and DJs are getting together to raise cash for charity at a Black Country variety night this week.

The Big Night Out, at the Kingfisher Hotel, Kidderminster Road, Wall Heath, has been organised by girl group The Rockettes on Friday, January 28.

The threesome, who perform hits from the 50s to 80s, will be joined by reggae band Progression and jazz act the Kings of Swing. Burlesque dancers Pin-Ups will show off their moves before the party runs into the early hours with a disco, and stiltwalkers Emma and Marie Acton will be on hand to keep the audience entertained between acts.

The Rockettes comprise Heidi Bytheway, 24, of West Bromwich, Bryony Hodgkinson, 25, and Domanique Savage-Ramsay, 24, both of Wolverhampton. They have only been performing together since September but their popularity has grown at clubs across the Black Country.

Proceeds from the event will go to Macmillan Cancer Support and the British Heart Foundation. For tickets and information call 07792740509.

# Parents fume as head pushes academy plan

A HALESOWEN school faces a protest over its bid to go it alone as an independent academy, and a petition has been handed in calling for parents and other townsfolk to be given more say in the decision.

Windsor High School's headteacher insists that the governors have carried out a "substantial process of consultation" since announcing the proposal last September to become an academy free from Dudley Council control from April 1.

Teachers' unions collected 150 names on a petition in Halesowen town centre calling on the governors to hold a "full and proper" consultation. They say few people knew of the plan until last week.

Parent Tony Barnsley, of Cherry Tree Lane, said: "I am alarmed that we have not been able to listen or take part in a discussion over the future of our child's school."

In September, the school newsletter and website said it was considering academy status, bringing £472,000 extra funding a year.

Head Keith Sorrell said: "We had a substantial process of consultation with parents and the community throughout last term."

"We gave a deadline for responses in October, but we had none. We have more than exceeded what we were required to do."

Martin Lynch, of the NUT, said although the current head and governors may be committed to running the school for local pupils, there was nothing binding on their successors.

## Church history

A TALK on the founding and architecture of Black Country churches will be held at Stourbridge Town Hall at 2.30pm on February 25 by local history book author Tim Bridges.

For ticket information, call the town hall on 01384 812945.

## Animal magic at nursing home

KEEPERS from Dudley Zoo took their animals to visit residents at a Black Country nursing home. The zoo's outreach team let residents get up close to the animals at Newlyn Court Nursing Home in Bilston, last Thursday.

## Shock for ICT team schools

A SCHOOL project in Dudley costing millions is under threat after the Government pulled the plug on local authority projects financed by the private sector.

Dudley Council chose RM Education as its preferred bidder for a £30 million contract to provide and manage ICT services for up to 120 primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units.

The 10-year contract is worth around £3 million a year, to be funded by the schools.

Private Finance Initiative credits worth £10m were earmarked to pay for a third of the scheme by the Department for Education

and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

But the council has now been told it can no longer draw in the private sector cash earmarked for the project.

## Important

Stourbridge MP Margot James told the Commons last week: "This amounts to a sudden cut in funding - £10 million over the next decade - for an important information and communications technology programme."

Dudley's cabinet member for children's services, Councillor Liz Walker, said she was seeking clarification from the Government.

## Ferrets in the runs for cricketers



Stourbridge Cricket club fundraising committee member Emma Pardoe with head coach Dave Banks and Caroline Hornberger, of the Heart of England Ferret Association

KEEN Stourbridge cricketers plan a race night with a difference - featuring 28 ferrets scurrying around a table.

The March 12 event at Stourbridge Cricket Club will raise cash for equipment for the youth section.

A track will be set up on tables, with tunnels and obstacles for the animals to tackle.

Punters will bet on the races and organiser Mark Ashbourne hopes to generate more than £1,000.

"We've been holding race nights for a few years where people bet on videos of horse races, but that was becoming very similar. This will be completely different," he said.

To get involved or to book tickets, call 0750 674 7619.

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## Misery claim on 'green' corridor scheme

MOTORISTS could be squeezed out and car lanes reduced under plans to transform some of the busiest routes in the Black Country and Birmingham into "low carbon corridors".

Among routes being considered is the 404 bus route through Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall.

West Midlands transport authority Centro has revealed it is preparing a bid for between £50m and £60m of the Government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to pay for the project across the region.

The aim is to encourage people to change travel habits to ease congestion. Critics warned the move could spell misery for motorists.

### Schools

It would see the introduction of new lanes for electric and hybrid buses, cycle lanes, electric car charging points and car sharing schemes along the busiest routes.

Travel plans for businesses and schools would also be developed to reduce the number of cars on the roads.

The LSTF, £560m between 2011/12 and 2014/15, is available to transport authorities outside London to bid for funding for "sustainable travel", reduced congestion and to improve quality of life.

# Josie's rosy outlook as freeman of the borough



Josie Lawrence

ACTRESS Josie Lawrence, who has brought up in Old Hill, was hailed "a wonderful person" as councillors agreed to make her a freeman of the Sandwell borough.

Members agreed to bestow the honour on Whose Line Is It Anyway? and former EastEnders star Josie Lawrence at a full meeting of Sandwell Council.

The leader, Councillor Darren Cooper said: "She is an absolutely wonderful person who has done a lot for all the people she knows. She is an esteemed local actress and we want people to know that we are proud of the Sandwell residents who go on to achieve great things."

Born in Old Hill, 51-year-old Josie became well known for improvisation comedy show Whose Line Is It Anyway? as well as for playing Amanda Best in EastEnders.

She started her career at the Barlow Theatre, in Oldbury, where she is a patron. She has performed with the Royal Shakespeare Company and received the Dame Peggy Ashcroft award for best actress in the 1990s.

She is well-known for her charity work and has helped raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for breast cancer research and to provide help for children suffering from autism and special needs.

### Honours

She has honorary doctorates from Dartington College, Wolverhampton University and Aston University.

Josie is the 11th honorary freeman of Sandwell and the second actress to be given the privilege after Smethwick-born Julie Walters in 2004. Others who have received the accolade include comedian Frank Skinner and former Albion player Cyrille Regis.

Josie's mother Kath Lawrence, of Cradley Heath, said the award was "a great honour".

The actress, who lives in London, will receive her award in March.

## Jobs created as double-interest business grows

ATIPTON construction and haulage company is expanding its office space as it anticipates a turnover of £4 million next year, creating six new jobs.

Mac Surfacing and MC Transport, both based at the same site on Malthouse Road, will convert the rear of the building to include offices on the first floor and expand the workforce with new labourers and office workers.

Plans include creating a garage at the bottom of the firm's yard and recruiting a new mechanic. The new building will be at the rear of the site.

Managing director Mark Copson, head of the construction side of the business, Mac Surfacing, and the haulage arm, MC Transport, for the past three years, said the firm grew during the recession.

He said: "We've outgrown our yard space quickly and we've been growing throughout recession. This extension will be creating new jobs and we will be recruiting locally."

## Club to welcome new members



Haden Hill Aikido Club - looking for new members

A BLACK Country martial arts club is offering a new training programme for 16 to 19-year-olds, thanks to funding from Sport England.

The programme run by Haden Hill Aikido Club consists of an hour-long training session over eight weeks which began last Sunday.

The sessions are at Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Barrs Road in Cradley Heath.

They have been funded under the Sports Unlimited programme.

Insurance cover for the whole course costs £1.50 per person.

Instructors Senseis Ken and Helen Williams, said: "We are very pleased to have received Sports Unlimited Funding for this training programme."

"This is a fantastic opportunity for any teenager aged between 16 and 19 to experience Aikido."

"The training will be supervised in a safe and friendly environment and will cover a range of Aikido training, as an introduction to the control of numerous weapons, mind and body."

For more information contact instructors Ken or Helen by on 07779 254971.

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# Ring and Ride service in £900,000 shortfall

## Keeping fit with fancy footwork

A NEW tap dancing class is starting in Halesowen which offers a fun way to keep fit as well as learning some fancy footwork at the same time.

The course is held at Halesowen library on Monday afternoons and learners will incorporate basic tap steps into dance routines which explore different types of music and rhythms.

Dance teacher Anna Fusco, who already has classes in

The course is run by Dudley Council's Adult and Community Learning Team and by the end of the 10 week course learners will be able to perform a series of basic tap steps, follow a simple dance routine and perform sequences safely.

### Exercise

Councillor David Simms, Cabinet Member for Libraries and Adult Learning, said:

"This is a fun way to exercise and improve fitness and also helps to improve spatial and physical awareness. There are lots of courses available for adult learners including other dance courses for belly dancing and ballroom and it's a great way to learn new skills and meet people."

The tap dancing course takes place in the Caslon Suite at Halesowen library on Mondays from 2pm to 3.30pm. To book a place contact Pat Shaw at Leasowes Community College on 01384 816287.



A tap dance class run by Anna Fusco, who is helping to set up the new group in Halesowen

A LIFELINE transport service used by thousands of West Midlands pensioners is facing a £900,000 budget black hole.

Elderly and disabled people may be charged to use the Ring and Ride service in future, or the number of trips it runs may be cut to try to plug the funding gap.

Taxpayers paid £12million to help keep the service on the road this year. However, the seven West Midlands councils that fund the service have had to cut back on the amount they pay to run it while costs such as fuel have soared.

Ring and Ride was launched in 1983 and operates around two million trips a year in the region.

Passengers book their journey over the phone, giving details of where they want to be picked up and taken to, and the time they want to travel.

Bosses at West Midlands Special Needs Transport, the charity which operates Ring and Ride, and the transport authority Centre, which funds the service with money provided by the councils, are now appealing to passengers to help decide how to make those savings.

### Important

More than 30,000 users are being sent a questionnaire asking them to vote for one of two options.

The first is to make an eight per cent reduction in the number of services being run, which could see the withdrawal of some services in the evenings or other times of the day.

The alternative is to introduce charges in the form of either an annual membership fee of £36, the equivalent of 69p a week, or a single trip fare of 60p.

The service is currently free for those with a senior citizen's or disabled person's pass.

Centre's chief executive Geoff Inskip, said: "It plays an extremely important role in our region's public transport system which is why we have given the charity more than £12m this year."

"Unfortunately, there is a pressing need for the seven West Midlands councils to reduce expenditure in this period of severe financial constraint."

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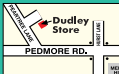
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An unfurnished semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking.

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#### HALESOWEN, COCKSHEDS LANE

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#### HALESOWEN, HILLTOP AVENUE

An unfurnished end terrace house, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Lounge, Spacious Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking.

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#### HALESOWEN, COOMBS ROAD

A well presented spacious Unfurnished briefly comprising of: One Bedroom, Fitted Bathroom with Shower and a Further Shower, Large Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, 1 garden.

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## Photographers in the frame with new exhibition



From left, John Smith, Mike Edwards, who won best picture, and Rick Williams

## Hundreds of pictures showcased

FROM canal scenes to an aerial display by the Red Arrows keen amateur photographers in the Black Country are showcasing the best of their work.

Hundreds of pictures taken both home and abroad are showcased in the annual exhibition by Dudley Camera Club.

The club has more than 40 members with several people joining its ranks this year. Around 170 photographs adorn the walls of Dudley Museum and Art Gallery while a further 130 are projected onto a large screen as part of the exhibition.

Winner of the best overall image this year was 74-year-old Mike Edwards with his picture called Page with a red hat. Mr Edwards, from Sedgley, also claimed a prize for his image called Italian Students which was highly commended by judges.

Among those whose work is taking pride of place in the exhibition is retired engineer John Smith, aged 72, from Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, who has been a member for six years.

His pictures include a snow scene taken while on holiday in north Wales in November.

The exhibition runs until March 5. For details call 0121 550 3240.



'Girl in an Alcove' won best picture



'Barges and Reflections' by Alan Messer

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## Big merger of libraries is planned

A MASS MERGER of all library services in the Black Country could save the region more than £1million a year, it has emerged.

Council bosses from the four Black Country authorities will hold meetings over the coming months to discuss the potential for a single, centrally controlled library service.

Initial estimates put potential savings at £300,000 a year per council. A feasibility study is already under way. Dudley Council's cabinet

## Dare to bare at the gym

GYM members in Dudley have bared all for charity calendars to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Kelly Tittley – or Miss March – is one of the brains behind the operation.

She managed to recruit 24 members and staff from the David Lloyd Leisure Centre in Pensnett Road, Brierley Hill, to pose nude with modesty protected by strategically-placed gym equipment.

She started fundraising last year alongside sister-in-law Mia Hales, whose daughter Lauren, aged six, has cystic fibrosis.

"I'm so proud of everyone who took part," said mother-of-three Mrs Tittley, aged 35, of New Birmingham Road, Tiv-dale.

The calendars – one featuring men, the other women – are now on sale in the centre and at local businesses.

member for libraries Councillor David Simms said: "When you combine a number of services, there will obviously be some overlap.

"Jobs going would probably be where some of the thousands of savings come from.

"But if we can make the library service more efficient and cost-effective, we won't have to close any more."

### Proposal

If agreed, the plan would come into action by 2013. A full proposal is expected by the end of March.

The news comes days after Walsall Council said it will close six of its 16 council-run libraries to save £1.3million. Discussions are also under way at Sandwell.

In 2007 Dudley Council said it would close five libraries and replace them with four smaller "library links".

A report from the Society of Chief Librarians in November found that a West Midlands-wide library service would not be feasible but commissioned a further review to examine the possibility of sharing back-office functions.

## Class taking its first steps



Author Nigel Rider who is running new line dancing classes at St Michael's Church Centre, in Maynards Avenue, Stourbridge

MOVERS and groovers are being urged to pull on their dancing shoes for a new line dancing class in Stourbridge.

The sessions, at St Michael's Church in Norton, are planned for each Monday between 7.15pm and 8.45pm.

The class is being run by line dance expert Nigel Rider, of Rokewood Close, Kingswinford.

He's not just a fan of dancing – he is

so enthusiastic that he has written a book on the subject which contains no fewer than 25 choreographed dances. Mr Rider said: "I love line-dancing and I love teaching it."

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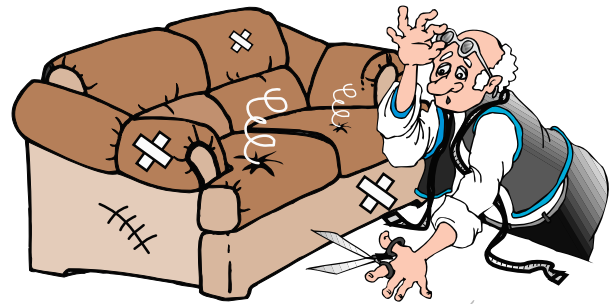
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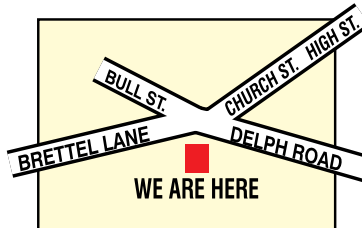
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The show features an array of favourite Disney characters, including Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Donald, Goofy, Pluto, Baloo, Disney Princesses Snow White and Cinderella, Stitch, Disney/Pixar's The Incredibles and Buzz Lightyear.

## Popular

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What is the name of the evil fairy?

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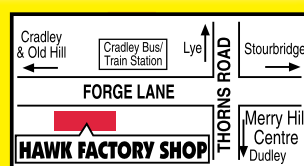
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## Increase in crash drivers over limit

DRIVERS involved in crashes on the roads of the West Midlands are increasingly found to be over the drink-drive limit, police have warned.

While the number of people failing breath tests over the Christmas period dropped overall, 5.6 per cent of drivers tested after accidents last month failed compared to 3.9 per cent in the same period the previous year.

Pc Steve Rogers, of West Midlands Police, said: "While these figures show some positive results in terms of the

total number of people testing positive for drink-driving, there is still work to be done in terms of reducing the overall number."

Nationally, more than 200 drunk and drugged drivers were caught every day by police during the festive period campaign.

Officers in England and Wales arrested more than 6,600 drivers during the month-long initiative, the Association of Chief Police Officers (Acpo) said.



Staff from Scot Young Research outside the new manufacturing and warehousing base

## Firm to clean up after expansion

LYE company Scot Young Research has moved to new premises to expand the business, after securing a £1.5 million funding package.

The origins of the company go back to 1954 when entrepreneur Scot Young emigrated from the UK to Canada and started a window cleaning business in Toronto, then an internal building cleaning company.

Following this success, Scot returned to the UK opening similar businesses in Glasgow and Manchester.

Further expansion followed worldwide and included opening a branch in Birmingham in 1977. In 1985 the business switched from cleaning to the manufacturing of cleaning equipment and materials.

Today, SYR has three manufacturing bases in the USA, China

and Lye, where it employs 150 people. Now, with financial support from NatWest Business and Commercial Banking, it has expanded into newly-renovated premises on Dudley Road.

The purchase has seen SYR expand its production and assembly facility.

Company secretary Dave Deo said: "At SYR we pride ourselves on inventing, innovating, manufacturing and assembling cleaning equipment and materials."

### Excited

He added: "This dedication has meant we have grown our customer base even during these challenging times, and have needed to find a bigger work space."

"We are very excited about the expansion into new premises and for the business benefits it will

bring for both us and our customers."

The move brought new life to a Black Country factory, the site had been occupied by Bronx Manufacturing.

The building went on the market for £1.4 million in 2009 after the collapse of the firm after nearly 70 years at the Lye site.

About 30 workers at Bronx, which produced large machinery, were made redundant.

When the sale deal was first sealed, SYR chairman and owner Scot Young, aged 74, said he was "thrilled" the company had signed the papers and now owned the factory.

"This is a huge step forward for the local economy," he said at the time. "We are a company which is getting stronger and stronger and this move is a result of that. We need a bigger site."

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# Changing Lifestyles



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## Changing Lifestyles

# Tile style can make a major difference

THE quickest and easiest way to bring about a dramatic transformation, whilst also adding value to your home, is with tiles.

Brighten up that tired kitchen with bright, shiny wall tiles. The latest trend is for bright vibrant colours; they can turn the "engine room" of the season into a high-tech kitchen that even a celebrity chef would be proud of.

With all those people going in and out of your house why not tile the floors that get the most punishment. Kitchen floors that are tiled are hygienic and trouble free and a hall or porch with a tiled floor won't be damaged by dripping broilies, dribbling wellies and muddy dogs.

### Lifetime

Bathrooms and cloakrooms are also hard to keep fresh. Tiled floors are easy to keep clean, very smart looking and don't mind if you don't quite shut the shower door. For extra luxury add underfloor heating. It is surprisingly inexpensive and easy to install. You can put floor tiles on most suspended wooden floors - consult a member of The Tile Association.

And with it being that time of year again everybody is looking for a bargain. Here are a few tips on buying tiles in the sales.

Always buy more tiles than you need. You should slightly over estimate anyway for breakages and cuts but think to the future.

Tiles can last a lifetime and in five years a new bath, a new shower screen or new radiators can leave small gaps. Tiles bought in

the sales are unlikely to be available again.

Mix and match. You can buy small quantities of different tiles and create panels, stripes or a chequerboard effect.

Choose a bold statement tile and create an accent panel or feature wall using cheaper plain tiles as the background. Choose vibrant metallic or glass borders that aren't in the sale and team with plain coloured tiles from the bargain section. Work your scheme out carefully before you buy and do make sure that the tiles are the same size and thickness.

Mosaic tiles come on a mesh background and can be easily cut into strips to make a border of any width you like. You can team these with large format white tiles for a very stylish bathroom. Buy more of the mosaic and create an accent wall over the bath, in the shower or above the basin with a mirror set in.

Buy decorated tiles and panels for your kitchen and team with cheaper plain tiles. Once again do be sure they are the same size. For a really minimalist look choose white tiles for your kitchen walls and use a bright primary colour just behind the hob.

You can often find plain tiles in size 100x200mm left over from commercial projects. Working it out carefully you can create brick effect, herringbone and basket weave



Mixing tiling by using it horizontally and vertically can be a really effective ([www.bathroomtilesdesigns.com](http://www.bathroomtilesdesigns.com))

patters to name just three. The brick effect looks really good in deep colours used half way up a wall in a hall way. Top with a border and a moulding in tile or wood and you have an almost indestructible surface on a wall that gets lots of hard wear.

### Reliable

On floors use the herringbone and basket weave patterns to make plain floor tiles look special. For a very rustic look choose a chequerboard floor in red and black or brown and black unglazed tiles or choose black and white for a more Victorian effect.

Select carefully and plan beforehand and you can add lasting value to your home at sales prices.

For more information on using tiles go to [www.tiles.org.uk](http://www.tiles.org.uk). It is the website of The Tile Association which represents all aspects of the wall and floor tile industry in the UK, from manufacture to installation. There you can download a copy of the DIY guide "Tile it Right", find a reputable tile supplier and find a reliable and experienced tile fitter.



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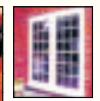


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# Talking Italian, this one is too good for words . . .

YOU'VE no doubt walked past it on your way to some of Birmingham's main entertainment venues, Brindleyplace is definitely the place to go, with the bridge over the canal all lit up at night it is like being on holiday.

But next time you step out that way going to the NIA, the ICC or the Symphony Hall, or even on your way to the shops, take a closer look and you will find that the area is buzzing. And with the latest attraction it is even more appealing.

Yes, the taste of Italy has come to Brindleyplace, in the shape of Carluccio's. The new restaurant which opened recently is in the heart of this bustling area and offers Carluccio's much-loved combination of café, restaurant, foodshop and deli. It is the ideal destination for breakfast, coffee and pastries, light lunch, a three-course meal with wine or even a spot of retail therapy.

The restaurant offers an array of authentic Italian dishes, from delicious antipasti and fresh handmade pasta, to seasonal fish, meat and vegetarian mains and decadent desserts, with two courses setting you back as little as £15.

## Popular

The deli is brimming with freshly-made dishes available for lunch on-the-go including tasty ciabatta sandwiches, pladina (Italian flat bread), light salads and other dishes. Head to the food shop to browse shelves with Italian oil, wines, coffee, biscuits, pastas, polenta, rice, antipasti, sauces and handmade sweets.

Despite the fact that it is relatively the 'new kid on the block' it is proving very popular. One lovely touch is that the food is available to take out or if you want to eat in you can pick one of the lovely pastries you see on the way in to go with your coffee at the end of your meal. This what we opted to do after a busy shopping afternoon and before we went to a show.

It was a cold day and the restaurant was lovely and warm and very spacious so no-one can listen in to your conversation and the service is very attentive. Our waitress Georgia was quickly on hand answering any questions we had and pointing us to the



Exterior and (inset) interior views of Carluccio's

specials boards. She also kept a regular check on our table to see that used plates were taken away promptly. We tried the soups, parsnip and pea and ham, both served piping hot with ciabatta followed by sea bream and steak, both served with roasted potatoes. There are several different side dishes on offer but the meals themselves, which are beautifully served, are very generous so you may not need one.

As we had spotted a lovely Apricot tart on the way we opted to have that to go with our coffee. All very nice and the perfect way to relax before a show.

Manager Mark Titley is very enthusiastic about Italian food and it shows. This is obviously very much a labour of love for him. Brindleyplace is the ideal place for an authentic Italian restaurant and is going

down very well with the locals and visitors," he said.

And if you are passing after a show on your way home you can take the food with you. With tasty Italian food like this on your doorstep who needs to go all the way to Italy.

SUE ATTWATER

## FACTFILE

Carluccio's, The Water's Edge, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HP  
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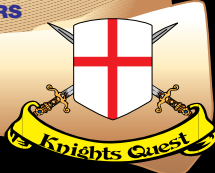
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## Changing Lifestyles

# Keep gardening diary of success and failure

A NEW year brings new beginnings in all our lives and especially in our gardens.

It's time to take stock of last year to see what went well and learn what we can do better this season.

I'm full of optimism for 2011, writes **John Clowes**. The positive uplift that gardening provides, together with the benefit of regular exercise, will see me investing more time in the garden and on the allotment.

Hopefully all families will be doing the same – especially if there are children to teach. Keeping notes of successes and failures provides good pointers for better results this year.

My successes include a great crop of carrots that had little damage from carrot root fly. This proves that 1m walls of clear plastic do prevent the flying females from laying their eggs and ruining my carrot crop.

Just four plants of yellow courgettes (T&M F1 Hybrid 'Soleil') weren't prolific enough for the kitchen and I must grow two or three green ones to boost total yields.

### Stringless

They were completely unaffected by mildew, but perhaps they needed some extra feeding with Miracle-Gro Fruit & Vegetable Plant Food.

My climbing French beans, Sultana, proved worth their weight in gold. They cropped well during the warm weather of June and July producing mountains of long, tender and stringless pencil-podded beans.

Only by the end of August were the pink-flowered runner beans Celebration producing anything like the same amount.

Family and neighbours agreed the French beans were the best they had tasted. They are on my seed list again this year, as will be butternut squash Cobnut that produced good winter squash that ripened and stored well.



French beans Sultana proved popular with family and friends

Japanese anemones make a great flower display in the autumn, but standard varieties grow to quite a size that is too big for most narrow flower beds. That's why the compact variety Pretty Lady Diana was a great addition in my garden. So too was Thompson & Morgan's first-ever red rudbeckia, Cherry Brandy.

Shrub discovery of 2010 was Loropetalum chinense Fire Dance. This relative of the witch hazel is evergreen with plenty of small heart-shaped leaves plum red in colour that carry along its stems deep pink spidery flowers. It seems to bloom all summer through from March to October, although the textbooks will tell you it produces most blooms in spring. The books will also say it will grow to 1 – 2m tall, although my plant is spreading outwards, rather than upwards, and makes a wonderful ground-hugging display.

And on to the reverse side of the garden-

ing coin – here are some of the 'not so good' results from 2010. All my sowings of rocket leaves were affected badly by flea beetle that drilled holes into every leaf, making all unsuitable for the salad bowl. Next year I will try to grow undamaged leaves in pots on the patio using Miracle-Gro All Purpose Compost.

Purple sprouting broccoli this year was disappointing as the pigeons ate more of the crop than the family. That's because the netting has developed holes over the years and must be replaced. Pests must be excluded totally if you are to get a half decent crop.

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A family run business that has been trading into their 22nd year of manufacturing.  
All of our fitters are employed offering a first class service.  
Choose from internal and external glazing.

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**WATCH OUT FOR THE TANK!!!**

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Why not take advantage of one  
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On any boiler change or heating system  
booked in before the 31st January 2011

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# FULL MOON PUB

## INDIAN TANDOORI GRILLS

### UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

The Full Moon presents a newly refurbished, family friendly Indian Tandoori Grill and Pub. With SEPARATE BAR, LOUNGE that seats 80 people and POOL ROOM.

Friday nights Entertainment is from the well known PREDATOR KARAOKE, running from 8 pm - 12 pm. Children are welcome to the Full Moon until 9.30 pm.

Staff at The Full Moon pride themselves on great customer service and competitive prices.

Join us for our Happy Hour every weekday night 4 pm - 6 pm on selected lines. Free onion bhajees are served Monday 2 pm - 6 pm with your purchased drinks.

Follow us on our facebook page for regular updates on our monthly themed parties and much more.

#### We also OFFER:

- \* FREE PARKING
- \* OUTSIDE CATERING PROVIDED
- \* SELECTED FUNCTIONS CATERED FOR
- \* TAKE AWAY AVAILABLE ON COLLECTION ONLY
- \* VISIT US AT THE NEW FULL MOON PUB FOR AUTHENTIC FRESHLY MADE INDIAN FOOD!

### Opening Times:

**Monday - Thursday 2 pm - 10.30 pm**

**Friday 12 Noon - 12.30 am**

**Saturday 12 Noon - 12.00 am**

**Sunday 12 noon - 11.00 pm**

### Food Served

**Monday - Thursday 5 pm - 9.30 pm**

**Friday - Saturday 12 Noon - 11.00 pm**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 10.00 pm**



### LIGHT BITES.

<b>Chicken Tikka</b> .....	£2.85
Chunks of chicken breast marinated in homemade yoghurt & cooked in a tandoori.	
<b>Lamb Tikka</b> .....	£2.95
Chunks of lamb marinated in homemade yoghurt & cooked in a tandoori.	
<b>Tandoori Chicken</b> .....	£2.95
Marinated in special spices and yoghurt & cooked in a tandoori.	
<b>Sheekh Kebab</b> .....	£2.45
Lamb Mince combined with special spices & cooked in a tandoori.	
<b>Fish Pakora</b> .....	£2.85
Tender pieces of fish marinated in ginger, garlic & mint with a hint of spices then dipped in spiced gram flour & deep fried.	
<b>Onion Bhagee (v)</b> .....	£2.00
Deep Fried golden balls of sliced onions, potatoes & spinach.	
<b>Somasa (veg) (v)</b> .....	£2.00
Mixed Vegetables & potatoes together with roasted cumin seeds, wrapped in a triangular pastry & deep fried.	
<b>Cheesy Wedges (v)</b> .....	£2.25
Spicy potatoe wedges topped with melted cheddar cheese.	
<b>Onion Rings (v)</b> .....	£1.95
Onions coated in a batter and deep fried.	

### SHARERS.

All served with salad and mint sauce.	
<b>Mixed grill</b> .....	£9.95
Chicken Tikka, Sheekh Kebab, Lamb Tikka & Tandoori Chicken.	
<b>Supreme mixed grill</b> .....	£12.95
Chicken Tikka, Sheekh Kebab, Lamb Tikka, Tandoori Chicken & Fish Pakora.	

### MAINS.

<b>Chicken Nuggets</b> .....	£4.45
Chicken nuggets served with chips and salad.	
<b>Beer Battered Fish</b> .....	£4.95
Beer battered white fish, served with chips, peas & tartare sauce.	
<b>Scampi</b> .....	£4.95
Deep Fried wholetail breaded scampi, served with chips peas & tartare sauce.	

### GRILLS.

All our grills are served with salad & chips.	
<b>Half Tandoori Chicken</b> .....	£5.75
Half a chicken marinated in special spices & yoghurt & cooked in a Tandoori.	
<b>Chicken Tikka</b> .....	£5.75
<b>Tandoori Sheekh Kebab</b> .....	£5.45
Lamb Mince combined with special spices & cooked in a tandoori.	

<b>Lamb Tikka</b> .....	£5.75
Chunks of lamb marinated in homemade yoghurt & cooked in a tandoori.	
<b>Masala Fish</b> .....	£5.75
Tender pieces of fish marinated in ginger, garlic & mint with a hint of spices.	

### BURGERS.

All of our burgers are served with salad, mayonnaise & chips.	
<b>Home - made spicy lamb burger</b> .....	£4.95
Lamb Mince combined with special spices.	
<b>Quarter pound Aberdeen Angus beef burgers</b> .....	£5.25
<b>Chicken Breast Burger</b> .....	£4.95
<b>Chicken Tikka Burger</b> .....	£4.95
Chunks of lamb marinated in homemade yoghurt and cooked in a Tandoori.	
<b>Crispy crumbed vegetable quarter pounder</b> .....	£4.95
Sweet corn, Carrots, peas & potato in crumb.	

### BALTIS.

All Baltis Served With Naan.	
<b>Chicken Masala</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Lamb Masala</b> .....	£5.95
<b>Fish Masala</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Prawn Masala</b> .....	£5.95

### CURRY BALTIS.

A Sauce of medium consistency produced from a wide but basic range of oriental spices giving rich flavour.	
<b>Chicken Curry</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Lamb Curry</b> .....	£5.95
<b>Fish Curry</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Prawn Curry</b> .....	£5.95

### MADRAS BALTIS.

A most popular dish made with spices, it has a hot taste.	
<b>Chicken Madras</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Lamb Madras</b> .....	£5.95
<b>Fish Madras</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Prawn Madras</b> .....	£5.95

### VINDALOO BALTIS.

<b>Chicken Vindaloo</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Lamb Vindaloo</b> .....	£5.95
<b>Fish Vindaloo</b> .....	£5.45
<b>Prawn Vindaloo</b> .....	£5.95

### VEGETABLE BALTIS.

<b>Vegetable Balti (v)</b> .....	£4.95
Assorted seasonal vegetables cooked in curry sauce with herbs.	
<b>Chana Aloo Balti</b> .....	£4.95
Chick peas & potatoes cooked in masala sauce.	
<b>Turka Daal (v)</b> .....	£4.45
Lentils cooked in spices.	
<b>Sagg Paneer (v)</b> .....	£4.95
Spinach cooked with tender cubes of homemade Indian cheese, herbs & oriental Spices.	

### OTHER BALTIS.

<b>Keema</b> .....	£5.95
Lamb mince and peas.	
<b>Tandoori Chicken Mankhni</b> .....	£5.45
Pieces of Chicken, roasted in a clay oven, cooked in special sauce, ground almond, yoghurt, butter & cream.	

### SIDE DISHES.

<b>Chips</b> .....	£ 1.25
<b>Salad</b> .....	£1.25
<b>Plain Rice</b> .....	£1.45
<b>Naan</b> .....	£1.40
<b>Garlic Naan</b> .....	£1.55
<b>Keema Naan</b> .....	£1.85
<b>Tandoori Roti</b> .....	£1.40
<b>Raitha</b> .....	£1.25

Yoghurt seasoned with coriander, cumin, mint & other herbs & spices.

### CHILDRENS MENU. - ALL £4.99

All come with free dessert & Drink  
**Spaghetti Bolognaise**  
 Spaghetti Pasta in a rich meat sauce slowly cooked with hidden vegetables and herbs.

**Macaroni Cheese**  
 Elbow shape macaroni in a creamy mild cheese sauce.  
**Chicken Nuggets.**  
 Served with Chips.

**Chicken Tikka.**  
 Chunks of chicken breast marinated in homemade yoghurt & cooked in a tandoori, served with chips.  
**Chicken Tikka Masala.**  
 Chicken marinated in Tandoori spices then cooked in masala sauce & topped with cream & served with rice.

### DESSERTS.

<b>Belgian Sweet Waffles</b> .....	£3.29
Served with vanilla ice cream & chocolate sauce.	
<b>Strawberry Cheesecake</b> .....	£3.89
Crunchy biscuit base topped with a layer of cheesecake & topped with delicious strawberries.	
<b>Apple Crumble</b> .....	£3.29
Served with custard or ice cream.	
<b>Chocolate Fudge Cake</b> .....	£3.79
A slice of Scrumptious layered chocolate cake served with vanilla ice cream.	
<b>Banoffee Pie</b> .....	£3.69
Sticky toffee sauce packed with slices of banana on crumbly biscuit base topped with cream & cocoa dusting.	
<b>Strawberry Trifle</b> .....	£2.29
<b>Ice Cream Sunday</b> .....	£2.99
Three scoops of ice cream served with wafers. Choose from Chocolate, Vanilla or Strawberry Flavoured ice cream - or why not try a scoop of each.	



**SALE**

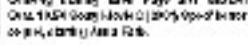
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**Channel 5** 5:00 **Killerrow** 6:15 **The**  
**Awful Truth** 7:00 **Star** 7:30 **The**  
**Vanessa Show** 11:45 **C&E: Crime Scene**  
**Investigation** 12:30 **Five News** 12:35 **Build**  
**Up** 1:00 **Five News** 1:30 **Home and Away**  
**2.50** **The Family Reunion** 2:55 **The 2.55**  
**Animal Rescue Squad** 3:30 **Flint Mystery**  
**Woman at Night** 3:50 (2005) **Movie** **Under**  
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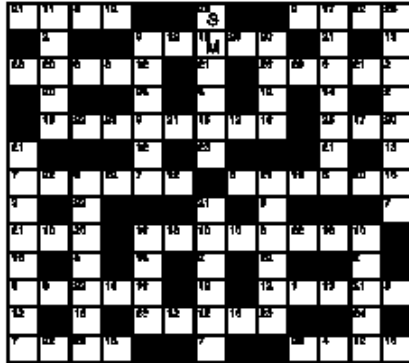


## Brain Gym

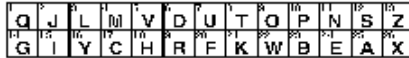
No. 101

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



## What are you waiting for?

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## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

6. He keeps on sup part before the reform (7)
7. Ideal group to play on eighteenth hole? (5)
9. Born in one Eastern land (3)
10. Spoke in broken English? (2)
12. Slight violation in silver and copper, perhaps (5,6)
15. The boss's office (11)
17. Policeman examines a place of furniture (9)
19. Sounds like a short age of death (3)
21. Very serious position to end up in? (5)
22. Rural bird is not on time (7)

## Down

1. Colour for putting on (5)
2. Fitting a small point (3)
3. Possibly felt it not right (4)
4. Diagrammatic form of cohesion (5)
5. Get even with Reg., perhaps? (7)
8. Spinning vessels? (6)
11. Imperturbable and misanthropic (10)
13. You've not been going straight if you have to make this up (6)
14. Approves of Indian tons of support (7)
16. Famous group of actors (5)
18. Fabric that's stiff or limp (4)
20. Really includes everything (3)

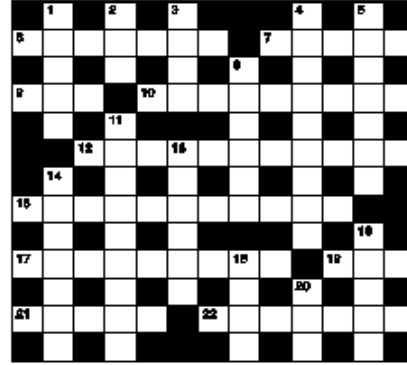
## Quick Clues:

## Across

6. Income (7)
7. Corner (5)
9. Cover (3)
10. Ocean (9)
12. Fear (11)
15. Inlet (11)
17. Hanging (9)
19. Strange (3)
21. Hut (5)
22. Excel (7)

## Down

1. Planet (5)
2. Fresh (3)
3. Unsubstantiated (4)
4. Contagion (9)
5. Water (7)
8. Outlets (6)
11. Thrift (8)
13. Preserve with salt (6)
14. Systematic (7)
16. Brighton (5)
18. Unlikely (4)
20. Still (3)



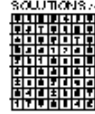
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

CRIMINAL - Across: 1. Stealing (9), 2. Crime (5), 3. Theft (5), 4. Larceny (7), 5. Robbery (7), 6. Burglary (7), 7. Swindler (7), 8. Thief (5), 9. Criminal (7), 10. Thief (5), 11. Robber (7), 12. Thief (5), 13. Criminal (7), 14. Thief (5), 15. Robber (7), 16. Thief (5), 17. Criminal (7), 18. Thief (5), 19. Robber (7), 20. Thief (5), 21. Criminal (7), 22. Thief (5), 23. Criminal (7), 24. Thief (5), 25. Robber (7), 26. Thief (5).

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:



## Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters of the words can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the five words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is Q. The words are: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

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Ashwood Close, Oldbury

A modern and spacious 3 bedroom detached apartment, occupying the whole of the first floor of the block. The property benefits from ground floor bedrooms, dressing room, master bedroom, EPC double glazed, electric heating, secure entrance and parking, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom suite, access to lift and garden area and double glazed patio doors. The property will appeal to first time buyers.



Park Road, Halesowen £520

A attractive and spacious two bedroom property. Briefly comprising of: Lounge, kitchen/dining room. Two good size bedrooms (master having

En-suite shower room). Family Bathroom, Rear garden and garage Viewing Essential



Boundary Avenue, Rowley Regis £595 pcm

An exceptional and well presented semi-detached home having the benefit of: Lounge, separate dining room, newly fitted kitchen, conservatory/utility area, good sized garage, three bedrooms, and a refitted bathroom. Gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens. Viewing highly recommended.



St Pauls Road, Smethwick £275,000

A superb detached 5 bedroom family property with an exceptionally large garden. Situated in a very popular area, within walking distance of local amenities and town

centre. The property comprises of gas central heating, recently installed double glazed windows and also benefits from a new extension to the rear of the property. Viewing is highly recommended.



High Park Road £104,000

Excellent opportunity for first time buyers, in a prime location for all local amenities. Beautiful semi-detached house with 2 good sized bedrooms. Fully double glazed. Large rear garden. Gas central heating. Off road parking.



47 Fatherless Barn Crescent, Halesowen £875 pcm

A 3 bedroom semi-detached house briefly comprising of: Large fitted kitchen, Family room, dining room, downstairs shower room and conservatory. Gardens to the rear and blocked paved providing ample parking. Gas central heating and double glazing throughout. Viewing highly recommended.

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# CHRONICLE MOTORING

## Plenty of style with high spec Aygo Go!



Toyota's Aygo Go! city car has a bundle of multi-media features to keep motorists in touch and in tune

When the going gets tough, Aygo Go! will make life behind the wheel that bit calmer thanks to a bundle of multi-media features to keep motorists on course, in touch and in tune.

The latest addition to Toyota's city car line-up comes as standard with a removable TomTom satellite navigation unit that has touch screen controls and a voice recognition function. Not only will it guide you to where you want to go to, it will even tell what the weather will be like when you arrive and flag up points of interest along the way – including filling stations.

The sat-nav comes along with Bluetooth and a USB port for connecting iPods and other digital music players to the audio



system, which itself provides a CD player that can play MP3 files from disc. The 4.3-inch navigation screen offers a bird's eye route view and can also display playlist and album details and text messages, with a handy speech-to-text facility

if required. Aygo Go! adds a healthy helping of extra style, too, with new-design alloy wheels, dark-tinted rear privacy glass and a leather-trimmed steering wheel.

New exterior colours are Chilli Red and Cirrus White, with metallic Carbon Quartz available as an option.

Air conditioning can also be specified, together with the dedicated Aygo Style and Protection option packs.

Aygo Go! is available in both three and five-door body styles and is powered by the frugal International Engine of the Year award-winning 1.0-litre three cylinder VVT-i petrol engine with manual or Multi-Mode transmission.

Prices: Aygo Go! three-door: £9,750; Aygo Go! three-door: (with air con) £10,760; Aygo Go! five-door: £10,105; Aygo Go! five-door: (with air con) £11,115.

## Don't rely on instinct when you go to buy

BRITISH car buy-ers still rely too much on their 'trust instinct' and fail to ask for bills of sale or service history documentation when buying a used vehicle.

Many cling on to the idea of a 'gentleman's agreement' for fear of offending the seller when they should treat the transaction as a formal business agreement.

Vehicle information expert HPI warned that many drivers were distracted by gadgets and a shiny exterior.

But a top-of-the-range vehicle specification is no consolation if it turns out the vehicle has been stolen, has outstanding finance against it, or has been clocked or cloned.

An HPI check offers used car buyers the protection they need.

### Attention

Consumer services manager Nicola Johnson said: "It is well known that initial impressions are formed in the first 20 seconds of meeting, and it may be in the first 20 seconds of viewing a vehicle that a car buyer will decide to buy."

"After this, all attention to detail flies out of the window and buying with the head gives way to buying with the heart."

"All too often, used car buyers are taken in by shiny paintwork and a sparkling interior when shopping for their next car, as this naturally suggests everything is in order."

"However, it is important for buyers to remain neutral and inspect a vehicle carefully, as a hidden history can be lurking just beneath the surface."

The risks of not doing so remain significant. One in four cars checked was on outstanding finance and anyone who buys a car still on finance risks losing the car as the finance company owns the vehicle.

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43	FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME 3-dr: Metallic Blue, PAS, EW, AC, CD, Alloys.....	<b>SOLD</b>
44	FORD MONDEO TDCI 134 GHIA Hatch, Silver, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys.....	<b>SOLD</b>
45	BMW 316ES Black, PAS, EW, AC, CD, Alloys.....	<b>SOLD</b>
46	BMW 318SE Silver, alloys, PAS, EW, AC, CD.....	<b>SOLD</b>
47	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI 5-door: Metallic paint PAS, EW, AC.....	<b>SOLD</b>
48	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 3-dr: MetPaint PAS, EW, AC Alloys.....	<b>SOLD</b>
49	VAUXHALL SIGNUM 2.2 Auto, Silver, 1/2 leather, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys.....	<b>SOLD</b>
50	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 ELEGANCE Red, Alloys, EW, PAS.....	<b>SOLD</b>
51	MG TF 1.6 Metallic Black, Alloys, PAS, EW, CD.....	<b>SOLD</b>
52	JAGUAR X-TYPE V6 8PORT 230CC Alloys, PAS, EW, EM, RC, CL.....	<b>SOLD</b>
53	PEUGEOT 206 GTI 3-door: Metallic Blue, 1/2 leather, CD, Alloys, PAS, AC, EW.....	<b>SOLD</b>
54	ROVER 75 1.6 CLASSIC Silver, full leather, alloys, PAS.....	<b>SOLD</b>
55	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE 5-door: Black, alloys, PAS, EW, AC.....	<b>SOLD</b>
56	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB Met Red, PAS, EW, AC, CD, 7 Seats.....	<b>SOLD</b>
57	RENAULT LAGUNA 1.3 DCI DYNAMIQUE Half Leather, Alloys, AC, PAS, EW.....	<b>SOLD</b>
58	ROVER 25 1.4 81 5-door: Met Grey PAS, EW, AC, CD.....	<b>SOLD</b>
59	HYUNDAI COUPE 208E Silver, PAS, EW, Alloys, AC.....	<b>SOLD</b>

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SEAT IBIZA 1.4 STYLANCE 56 Reg. 3-dr, Grey Metallic, Climate, 31k, FSH.....	<b>SOLD</b>
PEUGEOT 206 1.4 VERVE 56 Reg. 3-dr, Gun Metal Grey Metallic, Air Con, Alloys, 13k, FSH.....	<b>£4695</b>
VW POLO 1.4 TDI TWIST 05 Reg. 5-dr, Silver, Air Con, Alloys, 50k, FSH.....	<b>£4995</b>
FORD MONDEO TDCI ZETEC 130 55 Reg. 5-dr, Machine Silver, Climate, Alloys, 62k, FSH.....	<b>£4995</b>
NISSAN NOTE 1.4 VISIA 57 Reg. Electric blue, CD Player, 30k, FSH.....	<b>£4995</b>
FORD MONDEO EDGE 130 TDCI 56 Reg. (07), 5-dr, Machine Silver, Climate, Alloys, 55k, FSH.....	<b>£5495</b>
VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 CLUB AUTO 5-dr: 57 Reg. Silver Lightning, Air Con, Alloys, 24k, FSH, 1 Owner.....	<b>£5795</b>
VAUXHALL AGILA 1.0 EXPRESSION 09 Reg. Bright Red, CD Player, 14k, FSH.....	<b>£5995</b>
PEUGEOT 407 SW 2.0 HDI LUX PACK 06 Reg. Silver, panoramic roof, half leather, air con, alloys, 55k, FSH.....	<b>£6495</b>
VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTI EXCLUSIV Estate 57 Reg. Black Sapphire, Air Con, 47k, FSH.....	<b>£6795</b>
SEAT IBIZA DAB 1.9 TDI 56 Reg. 3-dr, Black, Air Con, Alloys, 58k, FSH.....	<b>SOLD</b>
VW PASSAT S TDI 105 06 Reg. Grey Metallic, air con, alloys, 27k, history.....	<b>£7295</b>
JAGUAR X TYPE S DIESEL 56 Reg. Black, 1/2 Leather, Climate, Alloys, 40k, FSH.....	<b>£8495</b>
JAGUAR X TYPE S DIESEL 56 Reg. Green Metallic, 1/2 Leather, Climate, Alloys, 38k, FSH.....	<b>£8495</b>

### CONVERTIBLES

SAAB 9-3 SE TURBO CONVERTIBLE 52 Reg. Silver, Blue Hood, Leather, Climate, Alloys, 87k, FSH.....	<b>£4295</b>
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### SPORTS

TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VTI 51 Reg. Silver, Leather, Air Con, Alloys, 91k, SH.....	<b>£2995</b>
SMART ROADSTER 80 54 Reg. Auto, Black/Silver, Alloys, Air Con, 50k.....	<b>SOLD</b>
BMW 330 Ci SE AUTO X Reg. Topaz Blue, Climate, Sunroof, Alloys, 71k, FSH.....	<b>£4995</b>

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RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE (7 SEATER), 05 Reg. Grey Metallic, Air Con, Alloys, 56k, FSH.....	<b>£3995</b>
VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.7 CDTI ENJOY 04 Reg. Black Sapphire, Air Con, 64k, FSH.....	<b>SOLD</b>
VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE 54 Reg. Silver Lightning, 7 Seater, Air Con, 38k, FSH.....	<b>SOLD</b>
RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 55 Reg. Silver, Air Con, Alloys, 36k, SH.....	<b>£3995</b>
MERCEDES A150 CLASSIC SE 56 Reg. (07), 5-dr, Machine Silver, Climate, Alloys, 55k, FSH.....	<b>£5495</b>
VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTI LIFE 56 Reg. Grey Metallic, Air Con, 39k, SH.....	<b>£6495</b>
HONDA FR-V V-TEC SE 1.7 55 Reg. Metallic Grey, 6 Seater, Climate, 48k, FSH.....	<b>£6695</b>

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VAUXHALL COMBO 1.3 CDTI (1700) 07 Reg. White, Side Loading Door, Plylined, 1 Owner, 72k, FSH..... (PLUS VAT)	<b>£3795</b>
CITROEN BERLINGO 600 1.6 HDI ENTERPRISE 75 07 Reg. White, Side Door, Plylined, 71k, FSH 'NO VAT'	<b>£3495</b>

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05 Reg	BMW 116i SE Gold, Climate Control, Alloys, CD, Park Sensors, FSH.....	£3995	£42
02 Reg	BMW 316TI SE COMPACT Silver, Climate Control, Alloys, CD.....	£3995	£24
08 Reg	CHEVROLET KALOS 1.2 S, Blue, CD, Low Insurance, FSH.....	£2995	£17
06 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE Red, A/C, CD, 5-door, FSH, 28k.....	£4495	£28
05 Reg	FORD KA 1.3 STYLE Silver, CD, FSH.....	£4495	£28
08 Reg	FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI LX Bronze, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH.....	£4295	£26
08 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC Maroon, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, £30 Road Tax, FSH.....	£5995	£36
08 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX TDCI 80 Blue, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH.....	£4495	£28
55 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 SPORT Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4495	£28
57 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.8 GHIA 2002, Green, alloys, 5-door, 30k.....	£2995	£17
44 Reg	MINI COOPER 1.8 CHILLI PACK Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Half leather sport seats, glass roof, FSH.....	£5995	£36
02 Reg	MG ZR 1.4 105 Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Spoiler.....	£1995	na
03 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 2.0 SE CABRIOLET Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 42k.....	£3495	£21
03 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 1.1 LOOK Silver, A/C, CD, low insurance, p/x to clear.....	£1995	na
57 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 HDI Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 5-door, £30 Year Road Tax, FSH.....	£5995	£36
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4S Black, A/C, CD, 43k.....	£4995	£30
07 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 URBAN Black, A/C, CD, 5-door.....	£4995	£33
06 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.4 STYLE 2006, Maroon, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4795	£29
06 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 90 HDI STYLE Red, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4495	£28
53 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 2.3 HDI ESTATE Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£3495	£21
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.4 X-LINE A/C, Alloys, CD, Silver.....	£3995	£24
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDI SE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4995	£30
56 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 16V EXTREME Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4495	£28
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£4295	£26
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Beige, 2006, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£3495	£21
54 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, 3-door, FSH.....	£3495	£21
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE AUTOMATIC Silver, Auto, A/C, Alloys, CD, 49k.....	£3995	£24
56 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE CABRIOLET Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£5995	£36
05 Reg	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4995	£30
05 Reg	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV Black, A/C, Alloys, CD, 7 Seater, FSH, 33k.....	£4795	£29
05 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 EXPRESSION MPV 2004, Gold, A/C, CD, 38k.....	£3495	£21
04 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£3495	£21
54 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Gold, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, 54k.....	£3995	£24
57 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB Blue, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 39k.....	£5295	£32
05 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN Red, Low Insurance.....	£3495	£21
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 LIFE AUTOMATIC Gold, A/C, CD, FSH, 27k.....	£4995	£33
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£4695	£29
07 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTI EXCLUSIVE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH.....	£5495	£33
07 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 VTI LIFE Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 20k.....	£5495	£33
53 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 LS Gold, A/C, CD, Stainless exhaust, FSH.....	£2495	na
53 Reg	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.8 ENJOY EASTRONIC Gold, A/C, CD, FSH, 46k.....	£5495	£33
05 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB Black, A/C, CD, 7 Seater.....	£4995	£30
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE Silver, A/C, CD, 7 Seater, FSH, 27k.....	£4995	£33
05 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF PLUS 1.9 S TDI Blue, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH.....	£5995	£36
05 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 1.9 SE TDI Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD.....	£6495	£38
53 Reg	VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 2.0 S Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Winter Pack, FSH.....	£4995	£30

Finance Example - Cash Price £3995, Less Cash or Part Exchange Deposit £500 Amount Of Credit £3495, Total Amount Payable £5453.60, 48 Monthly Payments of £103.20 or 208 weekly payments of £23.82

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Judges praised the Mondeo estate as a good all-rounder, which was more fun to drive than expected

## Technology boost for Mondeo estate

The latest Ford Mondeo has been declared the UK's best family and estate car by What Car? within months of going on sale.

Ford Mondeo, refreshed for 2011 inside and out, collected a pair of trophies at last night's What Car? Awards.

The best family car award went to the Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 140PS Zetec, with the UK's most popular car buyer's guide also naming the same Mondeo best estate – repeating the car's double success at the What Car? Awards two years ago.

Steve Fowler, What Car? editor-in-chief, said: "The latest Mondeo is simply a brilliant car – and now even better value. It does everything brilliantly and

nothing badly – whether you choose the hatch or estate you'll be getting a spacious, high quality, affordable car that's more fun to drive than you'd expect a family car to be."

External refinements, heightened interior craftsmanship and hi-tech features define the Ford Mondeo, which went on sale in October last year.

### Sporty

New LED lights, a revised bonnet profile and full chrome window surround hint at Mondeo's sporty handling and performance. LED lighting continues on the inside, illuminating a redesigned centre console, door panels and materials including high gloss black.

The technology on board the new Ford Mondeo offers increased levels of luxury and useability,

ranging from multi-media DVD system and 265-watt sound system to lane departure warning and speed limiter.

Nigel Sharp, Ford Britain managing director, said: "Ford's newest Mondeo has an exterior look and standard of interior well suited to the executive car park. For 2011 we've added powertrains ideal for the low carbon needs of our customers."

New powertrains for 2011 are Mondeo's 1.6-litre diesel and petrol engines. The 1.6-litre TDCi diesel engine, fitted with start-stop as standard, returns over 65mpg and emits only 114g CO2/km.

The 1.6-litre 160PS EcoBoost turbo charged petrol engine, capable of 134mph, delivers 41.5mpg and emits 158g CO2/km. The new range is priced from £17,695 on the road.

## Top honours for the new Audi A1



Audi's 'super-stylish, high quality' A1 took the top honour of Car of the Year at the What Car? awards

The new Audi A1 scooped the top honour at the prestigious What Car? Awards.

The judges were full of admiration for the premium subcompact hatchback, calling it "the ultimate downsizer's transportation."

Steve Fowler, editor-in-chief of What Car?, explained: "The Audi A1 is brilliantly targeted and ex-

cuted. More and more buyers are looking for smaller, more efficient cars, but with all the luxury trappings of much larger cars.

"That's exactly what Audi has given them – a super-stylish, high quality small car that's affordable and great fun, too."

Audi's Peter Schwarzenbauer accepted the award and said: "Our buyers can have great confidence in the A1 now that it has been voted the best by the respected What Car? experts who

we know are exceptionally thorough in their testing." The A1 has also clinched the Best Supermini title for 2011. Having been voted by What Car? readers as the Most Exciting Car of 2010 at last year's awards, the A1 has fulfilled its promise in the eyes of the judges.

Jeremy Hicks, director of Audi UK said: "It's an incredible honour for the A1 to win three What Car? awards in its debut year."

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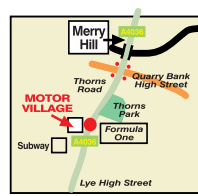
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07 FIESTA 2.0 ST 3DR. R+B STRIPES. WHITE, 42267 MILES	-	<b>£6,995</b>				10 FOCUS RS 350 MONTUNE LUX 1+2 PACKS + B/T, ULT GREEN, 2842 MILES	£27,995	<b>£27,495</b>
58 FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 3DR. NEW SHAPE + B/T. BLACK, 32883 MILES	£7,995	<b>£7,495</b>				<b>MONDEO</b>		
59 FIESTA 1.25 EDGE 3DR. OCEAN, 11688 MILES	£8,995	<b>£7,995</b>	04 FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 3DR. SILVER, 55394 MILES	£4,495	<b>£4,295</b>	56 MONDEO 2.2 ST TDCI 5DR. BLACK, 3863 MILES	-	<b>£9,495</b>
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# sport

Pressure tells as the Hawks bag five

Girls League  
Halas Hawks 5  
Kidder Lions 0

HALAS Hawks under-15 girls continued their impressive start to the new year with a cup win over a very good side.

They put on pressure from the first whistle and were rewarded by goals from Kate Hunnisett and Liz McAleenan. Further goals came from Kate Drew (2) and Rhianna Murray. Player of the match Rebecca Ingram was solid in defence.

Boys League

Kingswinford 2  
Halas Hawks East 3

The under-nines East bounced back from last week's defeat, going two up through Charlie Greening and Oliver Miller.

Kingswinford scored but Miller was again on target and a second Kingswinford goal was not enough. Players of the match were Oliver Miller and Joshua Yorke.

Halas Hawks East 4 Gornal Athletic 1

Jordan Ward chipped the keeper to put the under-10s East ahead, but Gornal levelled through an own goal.

Halas took control in the second half when Joshua Parsons (2) and Jordan Berry netted and kept Halas at the top of the league.

Bewdley Town 1  
Halas Hawks D 4

The under-12 Dynamos took on a strong Bewdley team which had won nine out of 10 to top the first division of the Stourport league.

Halas fell behind but then produced an excellent display to win 4-1 with goals from Jordan Boffey, Alex Gardener and Lewis Bryan.

A late home penalty was saved superbly by Anthony Coddell.

Halas Hawks 2  
Ettingshall 4

A below strength under-13s squad led through Dan Jennings, whose second-half goal restored the advantage after the visitors had equalised.

Ettingshall's strength in depth saw them run out 4-2 winners. Halas player of the match was Neil Langan.

Wombourne 2  
Halas Hawks 1

The under-14s East dominated them in their finishing with Jake Walley scoring their only goal.

Gornal 2 Halas Hawks 4

Goals from Danny Hodges (2), Lewis Hatfield and Jamie Nicolls saw the under-15s win.

Halas Hawks 6  
Withymoor 3

A high-scoring under-16s game went the way of the Hawks with a hat-trick by Guy Millward and goals for Tom Stevens, Joe Powell and James Harper.

# ROYNON SIGNS AT HEATHENS



Rider Adam Roynon

## Late goal in first Yeltz win since November

Halesowen Town 2  
Stourport Swifts 1

AN EXTRA TIME winner from Michael McGrath gave 10-man Halesowen a long awaited win in the Worcestershire Senior Cup quarter-final.

The Zamaretto Division One South and West opposition, managed by former Yeltz player of the season Richard Colwell, had earlier pulled level late in normal time to force an extra 30 minutes on Tuesday, writes David Johnson.

Halesowen had started brightly in their search for a first win since November, taking an eighth-minute lead. Captain Marlon Walters was the scorer, with his deflected wide-angled shot finding its way into the net as Stourport failed to clear a corner.

Yeltz goalkeeper Simon Flower did well to preserve the lead just two minutes later, making a fine reflex save from John Griffin's header.

The Swifts grabbed an 80th-minute equaliser when substitute Jamie Insell reacted quickly to slot home a rebound after Flower parried Griffin's shot.

Halesowen finished with a late flourish, Lee Chilton's low shot tipped away for a corner.

Into extra-time, the game ignited with Chilton shown a straight red-card in the 102nd minute for dissent.

But the 10-man got the vital goal two minutes later when McGrath's strike settled the tie.

HALESOWEN began life after Tony Thorpe with yet another demoralising defeat as Bedford Town cantered to a 3-0 win at The Grove on Saturday.

The manager left the club on Friday and the Yeltz put in a tame performance in Shaun Cunningham's first game in charge.

They were without star player Ruben Izquierdo, on trial at Championship side QPR, while Alex Roope replaced Daventry-bound Chris Godwin in defence.

In a bright start for the home side

DUDLEY HEATHENS have swooped for a major signing as they approach the new speedway season.

Former Great Britain squad member Adam Roynon will link with the club in a busy season which could see him race in all three leagues.

The Cumbrian will double up in Premier and National Leagues with Redcar and Dudley respectively, but is also in the King's Lynn pool in the top echelon.

And Roynon says he can't wait for the action to begin after a stop-start 2010 where he rode for Worthington, Stoke and Lynn.

He suffered head injuries and a broken bone in his neck in an horrific smash nearly two years ago during a Great Britain squad session at Saddlebow Road. It left him with a blood clot behind the brain; he spent some time in the special neurological unit at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and missed all the 2009 season.

But after gradually rebuilding last year the 22-year-old could make a mockery of his Heathens starting average of 7.70.

"It's all about winning races and building my confidence and that's what I intend to do for the Heathens," said Coventry asset Roynon, who will be introduced to the fans at a club event on February 25.

## Reputation

"I've heard all about their reputation and the big following they have so I'm looking forward to coming along to the special night. I've been working harder than ever before this winter to get things ready, not just on the physical side but on my schedule and my machinery."

Tickets are selling well for the Dudley Wood tribute night at Cradley Heath Liberal Club where Roynon will meet fans and top referee Tony Steele will show archive footage from the Heathens' glory days.

Tickets are available via paypal at the club's online shop at dudleyspeedway.com or by phone on 07717 242957. Fans can also order by post with cheques payable to HSSC and sent to HSSC, 2 Caernarven Way, Dudley DY1 2TR.

Halesowen T 0 Bedford T 3

Justin Nisbett flashed a shot wide and Lee Chilton saw a sixth-minute effort beaten away by Bedford keeper Ian Brown.

Nisbett made another fine run down the left as Halesowen forced three corners midway through the first-half, one yielding a Mark Smith shot which went just wide.

In the 29th minute good work by Rory Curtis allowed him to cross from the left and the loose ball fell invitingly for Wills whose fierce drive was blocked.



Black belt Holly Walters

## Black belt for Holly at age of 12

A DUDLEY youngster has proved she's a force to be reckoned with by earning a karate black belt at the age of 12.

Holly Walters, a pupil at Bishop Milner High School on Burton Road, began training four years ago and is the youngest pupil in her British Modern Karate Association class to achieve the revered grade.

She trains twice a week at High

Arcal High School, Sedgley, along with mum Joanne, dad Nick and eight-year-old brother Jack.

Ray Hoffman, a former world kickboxing champion, coaches her.

"Holly was a natural talent when she started but along with that talent, she trained very hard and was totally committed," he said.

"The black belt grading takes about four hours and it is very

intense. She was not given any special consideration because of her age and passed completely on her own merit. I am very proud of her."

Dad Nick said Holly had grown in confidence because of the class. "She wants to carry on and pass her Dan grades," he said.

The club has classes every Monday and Thursday. Call Ray on 01902 602797 or 07973 316028.

## McCauley is the derby winner



Kevin McCauley, left, lands a blow on Wayne Downing in their Black Country duel

## The A team hold on

STOURBRIDGE Swimming Club's A team just shaded its B side counterparts in round one of the Worcester Winter League.

Double individual winners were Adam Horton, Tom McCallum and Bethan Walters with Jake Buswell, Nat Dingley, Ellie Lord, Matt McCallum, Lauren Sanders, Richard Spoor and Sam Tromans also taking wins.

A BLACK COUNTRY derby opened the boxing show at Birmingham's Tower Ballrooms as Stourbridge's former Midlands champion Kevin McCauley took on West Bromwich's one-time British Masters title contender Wayne Downing at mid-dewlight.

McCauley couldn't miss the body shots early on and started to put his punches together as the first round wore on, with his opponent showing his mettle by taking a flush uppercut to the chin.

Downing hung on to go the distance but McCauley was a 40-36 points winner after the four rounds.

Glenn McCrory's top prospect Aakash Hussain opened his professional career just as he dreamed - with a win on "home" territory.

Hussain, the 18-year-old protege of

the former IBF world cruiserweight champion and now Sky Sports Fight Night commentator, is from Newcastle but was keen to make his debut in Birmingham, where he has many relatives and friends.

And it could not have gone much better for the former junior ABA title holder whose cruiserweight opponent was Bulgarian Verban Borisov.

Hussain won the first round comfortably, despite Borisov landing a stiff right hook. But that was as good as it got for the Bulgarian and Hussain won all four rounds in a 40-36 points call from referee Terry O'Connor.

Walsall's Danny Clews made his debut at light middleweight against Tamworth's wily veteran Matt Seawright in a six-rounder.

It wasn't easy but Clews used his skills to win by two rounds 58-56.

## Whiley's Grand Slam debut

WHEELCHAIR tennis ace Jordanne Whiley has made a surprise Grand Slam debut.

The Halesowen teenager arrived in Australia ready to play the ITF 3 Series Melbourne Open at Albert Reserve Tennis Centre, the practice ground for the Australian Open.

However, British number one and world number eight Lucy Shuker had to withdraw from the main event with injury, giving Whiley the wild card slot she initially missed by one ranking place.

"I was a bit shocked to hear I would be playing the Grand Slam instead of the ITF 3, but I'm more excited than anything else," said the 18-year-old before going on court.

## Tough

Whiley eventually went out in straight sets to world number four Jiske Griffioen, 6-4 6-1.

But if she was nervous it didn't show as she broke service in the first game and led 4-2 before her experienced Dutch opponent rallied and took command.

Whiley has also taken Shuker's doubles slot to partner Australia's Daniela di Toro.

And their task looks even greater as they were drawn to face reigning Wimbledon and US Open champions Esther Vergeer and Sharon Walraven of the Netherlands.

Next week Whiley competes in the Sydney International. Open before returning home to continue her training at David Lloyd in Dudley.

## Causeway on march

CAUSEWAY climbed into fourth in the Midlands Alliance with a 3-1 home win over Willenhall Town.

Danny Jones notched for Causeway but Dean Williams intercepted a back pass to level with a curling shot. An end to end affair was settled by goals from Ben Stretton and Will Tibbets.

The Halesowen Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Wolverhampton on Thursday, January 27, 2011.



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To save money and find the right ticket for you, visit us at [nxwestmidlands.co.uk](http://nxwestmidlands.co.uk) for a full range of ticket and Travelcard options. You can also visit your local travel shop or one of our 200 Travelcard agents in the West Midlands, Black Country and Coventry area.

## LOVE YOUR TRAVEL SHOPS

National Express West Midlands have six travel shops which cover the West Midlands, Black Country and Coventry area; Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Solihull, Walsall, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.

Our travel shops sell a wide range of Travelcards for adults, students and school children. So, take a visit to your local travel shop for up-to-date travel information and bus timetables.

Your nearest travel shop is in Dudley, and can be found in the Bus Station, Fisher Street, where the manager Jayne Blower and her team look forward to meeting you and happily answering any queries you may have.

So drop in today, and Love Your Bus!





LOVE YOUR  
NUMBER  
**9**

## Your local bus

Route 9 is one of National Express' most frequent services within our core network. It offers direct services to the City Centre and local amenities as well as being well connected with other routes. As part of promoting our high frequency routes, you may have noticed our **new green branding** which highlights the service.

The average frequency of the number 9 every day is 8 minutes.

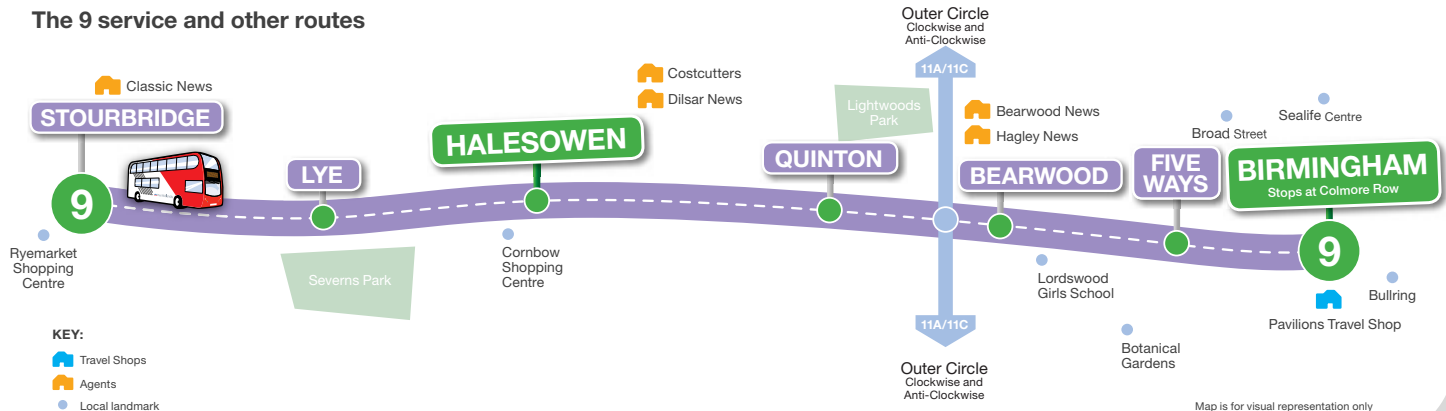
Peak	Daytime			Evening		
Mon-Fri	Mon-Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon-Fri	Sat	Sun
7/8 mins	7/8 mins	7/8 mins	20 mins	20 mins	20 mins	20 mins

**Peak** - Mon-Fri 07.30 to 09.30 and 15.30 to 18.00

**Daytime** - Mon-Fri 09.30 to 15.30, Sat 09.00 to 18.00, Sun 10.00 to 18.00

**Evening** - 18.00 to the end of the service

## The 9 service and other routes



## Get out and about!

Whether you're popping to the local shops on Bearwood High Street or planning a spree in the Bullring or Ryemarket Shopping Centres, route 9 is a shop-a-holic's dream!

Also with plenty of bars and restaurants along the route, you could take advantage of our Evening Saver ticket.

Working in the City Centre or doing the local school or college run? Why not save on fuel and the battle of the rush hour traffic with one of our Travelcards?

## Further route information

For information about other routes and where to find your local stop, visit [nxwestmidlands.co.uk](http://nxwestmidlands.co.uk) and enter Halesowen in the search box.

LOVE  
YOUR NEW  
WEBSITE

Did you know that you can now gain service updates, route planners and diversion notices at the click of a button? Prior to Christmas, National Express West Midlands launched a brand new website providing the most up-to-date and easily accessible travel news in the region.

The new website is also accessible from mobile phones for the first time and focuses on making travel easier, including:

- Service updates for major incidents such as road closures or snow diversions
- A route planner for people uncertain of their bus route
- Simple service maps showing the location of your nearest bus stop
- Travel news accessible from mobile phones while 'on the go'

Following your first visit it will remember which website you require - West Midlands, Coventry or Metro - and tailor the information to suit you. Selecting and purchasing tickets has also been made quicker and easier by reducing the amount of pages you have to click through.

So go on, get online today at [nxwestmidlands.co.uk](http://nxwestmidlands.co.uk) and we're sure you'll love your new website as much as we do!



## Safer Travel on National Express West Midlands



Crime on and around the West Midlands bus network has plummeted by 19% over the last year, new figures from the Safer Travel partnership reveal.

Initiatives such as CCTV installation on buses, and spot checks with inspectors and West Midlands Police has led to a 54.5% reduction in crime on and around the region's bus network over the last three years. This reduction has shown just how much the team's operations expertise has grown since its successful launch five years ago.

Safer Travel, a partnership between National Express West Midlands and West Midlands Police have two full-time teams that work together to make bus journeys even safer by deterring crime and anti-social behaviour.

Inspector Cate Webb-Jones, head of the Safer Travel Police Team, said: "Increasing trust and confidence is one of our main objectives and aim for every commuter to travel in a safe environment, free from anti-social behaviour and crime."

The success of Safer Travel operations rely on community intelligence, and encourage members of the public to speak to the team and provide them with information about matters such as drugs, misuse and criminal damage.

You can contact Safer Travel or provide information by visiting [www.safertravel.info](http://www.safertravel.info).



**The National Express  
West Midlands Safer Travel Team**  
Left to right, Tony Dallison, Carl Gauntlett and Terry Lerner

[nxwestmidlands.co.uk](http://nxwestmidlands.co.uk)  
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